

REMARKS

The specification and claim have been amended, and the Abstract has been replaced to place the application in better form for examination. Favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

It will be understood that the scope of the claims has not been narrowed or even changed by this Preliminary Amendment. Moreover, the claims have not been amended for reasons related to the statutory requirements for a patent, but simply to improve their form and thus facilitate the prosecution of this application. Accordingly, those seeking to interpret these claims should not limit them only to their literal scopes.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: Michael J. Crowley
Michael J. Crowley
Registration No. 49,009

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(919) 941-9240

Dated: October 16, 2001

<p>"Express Mail" mailing label No. EL 766105266 US Date of Deposit: October 16, 2001 I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington DC 20231 <u>Judith Harris</u> Judith Harris October 16, 2001 Date</p>
--

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated October 16, 2001

Marked-up Copy

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, section heading at line 3,
Background

Page 2, section heading at line 1,
Summary

Page 4, section heading at line 26,
Brief Description of the Drawings

Page 5, section heading at line 4,
Detailed Description

IN THE CLAIMS

Page 11, paragraph beginning at line 1,
[Claims] What Is Claimed Is:

2. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein the terminal is a mobile wireless terminal.

3. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 2, wherein the control request is sent from the terminal to the telecommunications network using a text messaging service.

4. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein the control code is sent from the telecommunications network to the external device using a text messaging service.

5. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein the external device is associated with or forms part of the terminal.
6. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 5, wherein the terminal is coupled to the external device via a local wireless link.
7. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 5 [or 6], wherein the control code is delivered to the external device via said terminal.
8. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, wherein the external device is remote from the terminal.
9. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 8, wherein the external device comprises a telecommunications receiver.
10. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 3, wherein the external device comprises a telecommunications receiver and the telecommunications receiver receives a text message containing said control code.
11. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, in which the step of sending a control request to the telecommunications network comprises calling a service telephone number.
12. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, in which the telecommunications network interacts with the terminal to select one of a plurality of predetermined control codes for sending to the external device.
13. (Amended) [A] The method according to 12, in which the interaction is at least partly via a speech channel.

14. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 1, in which, in response to receipt of the control code, the external device sends a response comprising at least part of a text message to the telecommunications network.

15. (Amended) [A] The method according to claim 14, in which the telecommunications network sends at least part of the response as at least part of a further text message to the terminal.

16. (Amended) A telecommunications network [for performing a method as claimed in claim 1.] comprising:

means for receiving a control request from a terminal;

means for converting the request into a control code; and

means for sending the control code to an external device.

17. (Amended) A telecommunications network comprising:

means for converting a control request from a terminal to a control code; and

means for sending the control code to an external device for controlling the external device.

18. (Amended) [A] The network according to claim 17, in which the control request includes an identifier identifying the terminal.

19. (Amended) [A] The network according to claim 18, in which the sending means is arranged to send the control code to a destination determined by the identifier.

20. (Amended) [A] The network according to claim 17, in which the control code is predetermined and the sending means is arranged to send the control code in response to receipt of the service number.

21. (Amended) [A] The network according to claim 17, comprising means for interacting with the terminal to select one of a plurality of predetermined control codes for sending to the external device.

22. (Amended) [A] The network according to claim 21, in which the interacting means is arranged to interact with the terminal at least partly via a speech channel.

23. (Amended) [A] The network according to claim 16 [or 17], comprising a computer.

24. (Amended) A program for controlling a computer of a network [as claimed in claim 23] to perform a method [as claimed in claim 1.] comprising the steps of:
sending a control request from a terminal to a telecommunications network;
converting the request into a control code; and
sending the control code from the telecommunications network to the external device.

25. (Amended) A computer-readable medium [containing a program as claimed in claim 24.] having computer-executable instructions for performing a method comprising the steps of:
sending a control request from a terminal to a telecommunications network;
converting the request into a control code; and
sending the control code from the telecommunications network to the external device.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Page 14, paragraph beginning at line 5.

In order to control an external device [3, which may be associated with or remote from a terminal such as a mobile telephone 2], [the] a terminal [2] sends a control

request[, for example in the form of an SMS message,] to a telecommunications network [1]. The external device may be associated with or remote from a terminal, such as a mobile telephone. The control request may be in the form of an SMS message. The network [1] converts the request into a control code which is in a form ready for controlling the external device [3]. The control code is embedded in an SMS message which is then transmitted from the network [1] to the device [3, which] The device has a GSM or other module associated with it in order to allow the embedded control code to be received, extracted, and supplied to the device [3] to perform the requested operation or function.

[(Fig. 1)]